

October 2011

## **KYAE audit**

## **RFP webpage**

## **Staff update**

## **First in improvement**

## **Stronger by Degrees**

## **McDonald's GED promotion**

## **GED updates**

## **Distance learning research**

## **Techie teachers**

## **Tech Teaching Tips**

## **mLearning tools**

## **Professional growth**

## **Math research project**

## **Kentucky history resources**

## **Wonderopolis**

## **PowerPath on Facebook**

## **LINGS resources**

## **Citizenship Resource Center**

## **Financial aid tips**

KENTUCKY COUNCIL ON  
POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION



**Kentucky**  
UNBRIDLED SPIRIT™

## **KYAE audit**

State Auditor Crit Luallen has completed performance audits on 30 adult education programs with grants totaling \$7.8 million in the 2010 fiscal year. "Based on our audits it appears that the grants are, overall, managed and administered effectively, and the local adult education programs appear to be in good standing," Luallen said.

Auditors examined 30 adult education programs, which provided adult education services to 9,301 students in fiscal year 2010: Bell, Clark, Clinton, Edmonson, Estill, Fayette, Grayson, Green, Hancock, Harlan, Harrison, Hart, Henderson, Knox, Laurel, Magoffin, Marion, Marshall, McCracken, McLean, Metcalfe, Morgan, Oldham, Pendleton, Pike, Rowan, Scott, Taylor, Todd and Wayne.

Nine programs had no reportable exceptions – Estill, Hancock, Harrison, Marshall, McCracken, McLean, Pendleton, Todd and Wayne counties. Three of the programs' audits resulted in disallowed costs totaling \$15,009, which is less than one percent of the total dollar amount awarded.

This is the seventh consecutive year that Luallen's office was requested to audit adult education grant recipients across the Commonwealth. Each year, KYAE selects nearly 25 percent of its programs to be audited. The programs are selected on a rotating basis.

## **RFP webpage**

Remember to regularly check the [KYAE Statewide Grant Competition](#) webpage for frequent updates leading up to the 2012-13 RFP, which is expected to be underway in early January 2012. KYAE will communicate RFP information to current providers and other interested applicants through this website.

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## **KYAE staff updates**

KYAE Vice President Reecie Stagnolia recently announced several staff updates, including a new KYAE operating structure. [Click here](#) for an organizational chart, which shows that KYAE is now organized in three distinct units with each headed by a director.

- David Walters has been promoted to Director, Performance and Accountability. He will manage technical assistance and data analysis and provide leadership in continuous improvement of adult education programs. The Performance and Accountability staff is made up of D.J. Begley, Billy Crabtree, Don Howerton, Donna Potter, Terry Tackett, Tammy Powers and Benita Wilhoite.
- Janet Hoover has been promoted to Director, System Support. She will manage and lead policy, planning, adult education grant processes and communications. Working with Janet are Marcy Parker and Toni Quire.
- Toni Quire has been promoted to Associate and will coordinate KYAE website development and maintenance, design publications and presentations and assist with internal communications and outreach initiatives.
- Jacqueline Korengel is returning to KYAE as Director, Strategic Initiatives, and GED Administrator. She will manage and lead in the areas of GED administration, curriculum and instructional support and teacher quality and effectiveness. Jacqueline worked in KYAE and KET for several years before relocating to the northeast where she was an adult education program specialist and GED administrator in Rhode Island. She was involved in the reform and strategic change of the state's adult education system, built and maintained external partnerships and aided in the development of the information management system. Jacqueline began her new KYAE duties on October 1. Staff in Strategic Initiatives are Meryl Becker-Prezocki, Gayle Box, Joyce Bullock, Rae Smith, Elizabeth Kuhn, Ryan Smith and Amanda Walker.

## **Kentucky first in improvement**

Over the past decade, Kentucky has improved faster than any state in the nation on key higher education performance measures, according to a report issued by the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems of Boulder, Colorado.

*Realizing Kentucky's Educational Attainment Goal: A Look in the Rear View Mirror and Down the Road Ahead* measures Kentucky's rate of improvement on key metrics from 2000 to 2009. The report found that Kentucky ranked first among all states on three metrics, including rate of improvement in percent of working-age adults with degrees, six-year graduation rates at four-year colleges and universities, and number of undergraduate credentials awarded relative to the population with no college degree.

Kentucky ranked second in the nation in the rate of improvement in the percentage of younger adults, ages 25 to 44, with college degrees, as well as in the rate of improvement in the three-year graduation rates at two-year institutions. Further, total undergraduate credentials produced in the Commonwealth increased at a rate that surpassed all but four states. [Read more](#) about Kentucky's improvement.

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## Stronger by Degrees

The Council on Postsecondary Education took another major step toward increased educational improvement and greater accountability in postsecondary education by approving state-level performance targets at its September 22 meeting.

“There’s no doubt that we can move further faster to get more Kentuckians more highly educated,” said Council President Bob King. “Few states have developed the level of statewide accountability that we have in Kentucky. Ours is a systematic approach, with targets aligned to performance metrics, which will accelerate progress toward state goals.”

In February, the Council approved a new strategic agenda for postsecondary and adult education with performance metrics that focus on four areas vital to moving the Commonwealth forward – college readiness; student success; research, economic and community development; and efficiency and innovation. The 13 state targets represent improvement the state needs to make by 2015 to stay on track with legislated mandates called for in the Kentucky Postsecondary Education Improvement Act of 1997 and other reform legislation such as Senate Bill 1 (2009) and House Bill 160 (2010).

The Council has developed an [online dashboard](#) to present and examine the performance of Kentucky’s colleges, universities and adult education system. Development of the dashboard will continue over the next few months.

### McDonald’s GED promotion

KYAE is excited to announce that the annual GED promotion sponsored by McDonald’s restaurants has expanded from 34 counties to 70 counties; more than 175 restaurants participated.

McDonald’s of Central and Southeastern Kentucky has partnered with KYAE in 34 counties for six years to encourage GED attainment with an in-store promotion funded by the restaurant owners. Following the leadership of these McDonald’s owners, McDonald’s restaurants in another 36 counties have joined the campaign this year.

For five weeks in August and September, restaurants represented by McDonald’s of Central and Southeastern Kentucky, Paducah-area Co-op, Tri-State Co-op (Eastern Kentucky) and Louisville-area Co-op used trayliners featuring a message encouraging the attainment of a GED diploma.

This campaign would not be possible without the leadership of Joe Graviss of Frankfort. Joe is a McDonald’s owner in Central Kentucky and a Council on Postsecondary Education member with a strong commitment to improving educational attainment in Kentucky. He initially piloted the GED campaign in Franklin and Woodford counties. Following the success in these two counties, his McDonald’s co-op adopted the campaign. This year, he was successful in expanding the promotion to three other co-ops in Kentucky. KYAE will continue to work with Joe to extend this campaign statewide.

### GED updates

To stay in the loop on the latest GED information, check out the following resources:

- [GEDTS microsite](#) – Read about the GED 21<sup>st</sup> Century Initiative, computer-based testing, upcoming changes and more.
- [GED newsletter](#) – Subscribe to The Community, the GEDTS newsletter, for regular updates.

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## Distance learning research

The Center for Rural Pennsylvania has released the final report for a recent study, "[GED Preparation through Distance Learning in Rural Pennsylvania](#)." The study examines the use and effectiveness of distance learning for rural GED students. According to the author, one of the most exciting findings was that distance learners were just as likely as face-to-face learners to pass the GED Tests, even after controlling for student background characteristics.

## Become a techie teacher

Due to popular demand, KET has added an additional training date for *Creating Techie Teachers: Increasing Interactivity in Adult Education Classrooms*. This training will be offered from 9:30 am – 3:30 pm on October 27 at KET's Media Lab, Lexington.

During this training, you will learn to:

- Easily access and utilize the full range of tools made available by Google.
- Create resources for use on an interactive whiteboard (i.e., Smart© Board).

Participants must register by using the KYAE Course Catalog at <http://www.kyvae.org/courses/courses.aspx> and selecting course code number KYAE 343. This training is a KYAE professional growth opportunity, and PD funds can be used to cover travel expenses.

For further information or questions regarding the training, please contact Sarah Wilkins, KET adult education specialist, at [sarah.wilkins@ket.org](mailto:sarah.wilkins@ket.org).

## Sign up for Tech Teaching Tips

The first edition of KET's "Tech Teaching Tips" monthly newsletter will be ready soon. This newsletter will include tips on incorporating technology into lessons, links to short educational video clips and suggested classroom activities. [Click here](#) to subscribe. The first edition will arrive in your inbox in a few weeks.

## mLearning tools

Using mobile devices as instructional and retention tools is becoming more popular in the adult education community. To learn more about – and try out – mobile learning in the adult education classroom, here are some resources:

- [Cell phone survey](#) to find out what mobile devices your students have and how they use them.
- [Mobile learning section](#) of the Adult Literacy Education Wiki.
- [Using mobile phones](#) in adult education classes.

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## Professional growth opportunities

ProfessionalStudiesAE.org, a partnership of World Education Inc. and ProLiteracy/New Readers Press, is offering online professional growth opportunities on Transitions to College and Careers. The list below describes the courses available. Click on the registration links listed under each course to register. KYAE PD allocations can be used for these courses.

If you have questions regarding these courses, please e-mail [literacy@worlded.org](mailto:literacy@worlded.org).

### Research-based Strategies and Models for Adult Transitions to Postsecondary Education

Read and discuss the research on the changing workforce and examine the reasons adult students need to go beyond the GED and English language study to advance their earning potential. Learn about the challenges facing adult students in postsecondary education and investigate strategies and program models that support adult transitions to postsecondary education. Throughout the course, you gather local and regional data on the labor market, educational needs and academic programs and support services offered by area colleges to guide future program development and planning.

*Course Dates:* October 5–December 7, 2011; one teleconference on October 11 **or** 12, 1 pm EDT

*Full Course Description:* <http://professionalstudiesae.worlded.org/pdf/CTOverOct11.pdf>

*Course Instructor:* Johnna Herrick-Phelps;

*Estimated Completion Time:* 24 hours/8 weeks

*Course Fee:* \$249.00

*Registration:* <http://professionalstudiesae.worlded.org/index.html#trans>

### Introduction to College Transition Math

Through the readings and activities in this course, you will reflect on your own and your students' math backgrounds, examine and experience the college placement tests your students take, try out math activities and exercises you can use in your classrooms and explore the math knowledge and skills you will want to present to your own college transition students.

*Course Dates:* October 10–December 12, 2011

*Full Course Description:* <http://professionalstudiesae.worlded.org/pdf/CTMathOvOct11.pdf>

*Required Text:* *Unlatching the Gate: Helping Adult Students Learn Mathematics* by Katherine Safford-Ramus (Bloomington, IN: Xlibris Corporation, 2008), ISBN 978-1-4363-5120-1. Allow at least two weeks for delivery.

*Course Instructor:* Kelly Folsom

*Estimated Completion Time:* 24 hours/6 weeks

*Course Fee:* \$249.00

*Registration:* <http://professionalstudiesae.worlded.org/index.html#ctmath>

### Differentiated Instruction

Adult educators almost always face many different levels of students in their classrooms, with all the attendant difficulties in teaching. In this facilitated, interactive course, you will learn how differentiated instruction can help produce effective teaching in your classes. You will learn to make the strong learning objectives required to keep multilevel instruction on target. Both research and specific strategies will be addressed. By the course end, you will produce your own lesson plan with effective learning objectives and differentiation suited to your own environment.

*Course Dates:* October 11–December 12, 2011, with 3 synchronous chats scheduled during Lessons 2, 3, and 4.

*Full Course Description:* <http://professionalstudiesae.worlded.org/pdf/DIOverOct11.pdf>

*Required Text:* *How to Differentiate Instruction in Mixed-Ability Classrooms, 2nd Edition*, by Carol Ann Tomlinson (Alexandria, VA: Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD), 2001),

*Course Instructor:* Wendy Quiñones

*Estimated Completion Time:* 30 hours/6 weeks

*Course Fee:* \$249.00

*Registration:* <http://professionalstudiesae.worlded.org/index.html#di>

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## **College Readiness for Adults: Beyond Academic Preparation!**

The overall objective of this course is to assist educators, counselors, administrators and postsecondary partners to better prepare their students for postsecondary education. Together, we will identify, organize and reflect on the broad array of readiness skills and abilities that adults need to be successful in postsecondary education and training. Then, each of us will consider how to change our practice to incorporate what we have learned. The course was developed and written by Cynthia Zafft, Principal Investigator for the National College Transition Network, World Education.

*Course Dates:* October 13–December 7, 2011

*Full Course Description:* <http://professionalstudiesae.worlded.org/pdf/CTReadiOvOct11.pdf>

*Course Instructor:* Johnna Herrick-Phelps

*Estimated Completion Time:* 24 hours/7 weeks

*Course Fee:* \$249.00

*Registration:* <http://professionalstudiesae.worlded.org/index.html#ctreadi>

## **Math research project**

The Adult Numeracy Network (ANN) is sponsoring two practitioner research projects to begin this fall and conclude before its annual meeting next spring. Instructors are encouraged to try something new in their classrooms based on the ANN Teaching and Learning Principles. For an application and more information, visit [www.adulnumeracynetwork.org](http://www.adulnumeracynetwork.org). Application deadline is October 30, 2011.

## **Kentucky history resources**

A wealth of Kentucky historical accounts, images, posters and other documents are available on [Kyleidoscope](http://www.kyleidoscope.org), a subset of the Kentuckiana Digital Library. The prepackaged units from the Kentucky timeline are filled with unique primary documents and images from Kentucky archives and museums. Teaching tools and printable aids accompany many of the units to assist in preparing lesson plans. Kyleidoscope was made in partnership with curriculum specialists at the Kentucky Department of Education as well as historians and history educators and the Digital Programs team at the University of Kentucky.

## **Wonderopolis**

Time Magazine named a National Center for Family Literacy website as one of the 50 best sites of 2011. [Wonderopolis](http://www.wonderopolis.org) is NCFL's family learning website. Time touted the daily "Wonders of the Day" feature as fun learning for both children and adults. "The daily articles ... are allegedly educational and supposedly aimed at kids. Don't let that fool you. They're just plain interesting and make for addictive reading even for those of us who are, in theory, all grown up," the review states. Check out this great resource from a Kentucky partner.

## **PowerPath on Facebook**

Many adult educators in Kentucky have benefitted from PowerPath training over the past few years. To follow the latest PowerPath developments, check out the new PowerPath community of practice on Facebook. It is called "PowerPath to Education and Employment" and features students whose lives have been changed and educators whose programs have been changed.



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## LINCS resources

Each month *Collections News*, the LINCS newsletter, features one of the three *LINCS* Resource Collections – Basic Skills, Program Management and Workforce Competitiveness – and introduces research-based resources that you can use in your adult and family literacy programs and classrooms. The [September issue](#) features the Program Management Collection, which covers assessment, learning disabilities and program improvement.

Contact the Program Management Collection content experts for additional information and to learn more about the resources, technical assistance and professional development opportunities available at no cost: Assessment – [Marie Cora](#); Learning Disabilities – [Aaron Kohring](#); Program Improvement/Transitions to Postsecondary Education – [Gail Cope](#).

## Citizenship Resource Center

The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services launched a [Citizenship Resource Center](#), a web-based portal that centralizes citizenship resources for immigrants, educators and organizations. This free easy-to-use website contains an array of information on the naturalization process plus a variety of resources.

## Financial aid tips

Please share the following information with students planning on going to college. These tips from the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA) may give your students an edge in the yearly race for scholarship dollars.

- **Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as soon as possible after January 1.** The FAFSA is used to apply for state and federal student aid. File online at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov).
- **Look for local scholarships in your newspaper or local organization's websites.** Community organizations and businesses may have scholarships reserved for local students.
- **Talk with a financial aid officer** at the school you plan to attend about any aid the school has available.
- **Find out how to reduce student loan costs.** Most financial aid packages include student loans. Take out loans only after you have received all the free aid — grants, scholarships and work-study — for which you qualify. Federal student loans are generally better deals than private loans, but compare interest rates and repayment terms carefully.
- **Visit websites** with free information about college, financial aid and careers.
- **Be a neat freak.** Neat and complete counts when you're filling out applications.
- **Apply, apply, apply.** The more financial aid for which you apply, the better your chances of getting enough aid to pay for college. Make sure you meet all deadlines.

To keep up with the latest college planning information, follow KHEAA on Facebook and Twitter. KHEAA's Facebook page is <http://bit.ly/KHEAAfacebook>. The public can "like" KHEAA on Facebook by texting "like KHEAA" to 32665. To join from a cell phone, a person must have an Internet data plan and a text message plan. Standard billing rates from cellular service providers will apply. To follow KHEAA on Twitter, visit <http://twitter.com/KHEAA> or text "follow KHEAA" to 40404.

To find links to other useful education websites, go to [www.gotocollege.ky.gov](http://www.gotocollege.ky.gov). For more information about Kentucky scholarships and grants, visit [www.kheaa.com](http://www.kheaa.com); write KHEAA, P.O. Box 798, Frankfort, KY 40602; or call 800-928-8926, ext. 6-7372.